

REPORTS
OF THE
SELECTMEN OF FAIRHAVEN
ON THE
FINANCIAL AFFAIRS OF THE TOWN,
AND OF THE
SCHOOL COMMITTEE,
FOR THE YEAR 1867-8.

NEW BEDFORD:
E. ANTHONY & SONS, PRINTERS, 67 UNION STREET.
1868.



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REPORT OF THE SELECTMEN.

ACCOUNT OF THE COLLECTOR OF TAXES.

Uncollected taxes as per last report,	\$5,392.41
Amount of tax bills placed in hands of T. Damon, Jr., for year 1867,	27,073.50
Interest on taxes,	133.63
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	\$32,599.54

Amount collected by T. Damon, Jr., and paid:

State treasurer,	\$9,200.00	
County treasurer,	1,901.89	
Town treasurer,	11,492.01	
Abatement for prompt pay,	1,217.50	
Taxes remitted,	67.23	
Taxes refunded,	59.41	
Treasurer and collector's salary,	562.32	
Uncollected taxes for 1860,	429.97	
Uncollected taxes for 1861,	529.93	
Uncollected taxes for 1862,	768.28	
Uncollected taxes for 1863,	387.85	
Uncollected taxes for 1864,	524.05	
Uncollected taxes for 1865,	790.52	
Uncollected taxes for 1866,	705.50	
Uncollected taxes for 1867,	3,963.05	32,599.54

The Selectmen have examined the accounts of T. Damon, Jr., collector of taxes, and find them correct.

TUCKER DAMON, JR., TREASURER,

IN ACCOUNT WITH THE TOWN OF FAIRHAVEN, DR.

To balance from old account,	\$1,695.42
Taxes received from collector,	11,492.01
Dividend from National Bank, Fairhaven,	184.00
Cash from town of Dartmouth,	94.41
Cash from town of Rochester,	50.35
Cash from town of Acushnet,	76.75
Cash from town of Mattapoisett,	401.37
Cash from town of Middleborough,	64.25
Cash from city of New Bedford,	91.95
Cash from A. P. Willcox, book agent,	236.25
Cash from Sarah Shaw,	169.79
Cash from Joseph Pope,	155.09
Cash from Joseph Millett,	176.29
Cash from State treasurer,	2,869.34
Cash from town farm, highway bill,	284.60
Loan from Fairhaven Savings Institution,	7,100.00
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	\$25,141.87

Credit.

By orders drawn on treasurer and paid for account of highways, public schools, support of poor, and incidental account,	\$23,854.76
By balance on hand to new account,	1,287.11
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	\$25,141.87

REPAIRS OF HIGHWAYS.

Order favor Seth Alden for payment to sundry persons clearing snow 1866,	\$42.24
Order favor Stillman Leavitt for payment to sundry persons clearing snow 1866,	15.80

Order favor Job Willcox for payment to

Ebenezer G. Grinnell,	\$8.60
Benjamin C. Parker,	3.50
Robert Parker,	8.58
Sylvanus Skiff,	1.75
Jonathan Mosher,	3.00
Reuben Austin,	15.00
Samuel Tinkham,	17.10
William A. Tripp,	7.18
James M. Hall,	.87
William P. Sullings,	2.64
Town farm,	4.00
Job Willcox,	78.12
Watson Jenney,	4.00

Paul K. Hathaway,	\$7.90	
Andrew Spooner,	1.20	
Squire Stevens,	1.00	
Lorin Austin,	.87	165.31

Order favor Jabez T. Howard for payment to

Dennis Stevens,	\$12.78	
Benjamin P. Tripp,	8.75	
Seth Delano,	15.65	
Albert Howard,	5.69	
Thomas and Ephraim Delano,	14.35	
John Gelatt, Jr.,	9.75	
Henry Weeden,	4.25	
Isaac Hathaway,	8.10	
John F. Howard,	9.80	
Charles F. Blossom,	14.87	
Henry T. Howard,	22.24	
Jabez T. Howard,	55.25	
Sundry persons clearing snow,	40.65	222.13

Order favor Seth A. Mitchell for payment to

John Howard,	\$53.20	
William C. Ford,	72.58	
Benjamin Sampson,	21.00	
Samuel Briggs,	22.05	
Thomas Davis,	11.81	
Charles Howard,	.30	
William H. Dwelley,	27.62	
John Sweeny,	11.19	
Josiah R. Howland,	21.28	
Emery P. Dwelley,	1.50	
R. A. Dunham & Co.,	34.25	
Thomas Clark,	8.75	
Roland Fish,	33.00	
Enoch T. Taber,	6.75	
Town farm,	87.00	
George Willcox,	6.75	
Boston and Fairhaven Iron Works,	7.50	
F. R. Whitwell,	4.50	
Lot Besse,	4.78	
Alpheus Haskins,	1.75	
Nicholas Hathaway,	2.10	
William Hicks,	22.50	
Welcome J. Lawton,	3.00	
Marshal Briggs,	11.30	
E. R. Sawin,	1.50	
Seth A. Mitchell,	64.52	
Albert G. Liscomb,	9.92	
Bradford S. Peirce,	24.15	574.83

Order favor Josiah R. Howland for payment to

Josiah R. Howland,	\$76.70	
Arthur Cox,	14.00	
F. R. Whitwell,	32.25	
William Dwelley,	16.00	
George Willcox,	15.60	
Charles Shaw,	11.40	
James H. Gifford,	12.40	
John Wood,	9.50	
O. Willcox,	16.40	
Roland Fish,	3.00	
Seth Shaw,	2.00	
E. Dwelley,	3.00	
Joseph Smith,	6.20	
Town farm,	43.15	
Tripp & Bourne,	2.60	
John Alden,	1.00	
Sundry persons, clearing snow,	13.00	278.20

Order favor Seth Alden for payment to

Seth Alden,	\$95.50	
George Swain & Son,	20.55	
William Mackie,	20.89	
Charles Sherman,	2.62	
Josiah Mendall,	1.50	
Philip Reed,	1.40	
Henry Jenney,	6.89	
Alonzo Hill,	10.05	
James M. Hall,	13.99	
Estate B. Taber,	15.00	
Simpson Jenney,	1.31	
Henry T. Howard,	8.75	
Reuben W. Austin,	8.75	
Henry Brownell,	6.02	
George R. Deane,	12.08	
Daniel W. Deane,	4.55	
Elam Littlefield,	3.50	
Sundry persons, clearing snow,	42.52	275.87

Order favor John Wood for payment to

John Wood,	1.75
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Order favor town farm for payment to

Stillman Leavitt,	284.60	286.35
		<u>\$1,860.73</u>

Credit.

By appropriation,	\$1,500.00	
By special appropriation, cedar street,	150.00	
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	\$1,650.00	
Amount overdrawn to debit incidental acc.,	210.73	\$1,860.73

SUPPORT OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS.**High School.**

Elliot Whipple, teacher,	\$92.50	
Ellen P. Hamblin, teacher,	374.50	
C. C. Woodman, teacher,	974.50	
W. D. Eldredge, care,	49.75	
Ann M. Luscomb, cleaning,	17.25	
Roland Fish, fuel,	115.00	
Purrington & Taber, repairs,	27.68	
Hervey Wadsworth, repairs,	193.15	
Ripley & Tripp, lumber,	25.00	
S. Hutchinson, supplies,	2.16	
Caleb Maxfield, supplies,	2.60	
Sullings & Kingman, supplies,	2.45	
D. C. Burt, supplies,	2.75	
John Hopkins, melodeon,	31.00	
Marshall Briggs, repairs,	13.85	
John W. Lawton, repairs,	2.80	
Thomas Hannah, repairs,	1.80	
Andrew Benson, fuel,	6.75	
Nathaniel S. Taber, repairs,	93.17	
H. B. Chamberlin, chemicals,	48.62	
William Howe, repairs,	3.00	
Obadiah Davis, repairs,	1.50	
F. M. Fuller, supplies,	.58	
Stevens & Eldredge, ice,	3.00	
James I. Church, supplies,	3.09	
Tripp & Bourne,	7.71	\$2,096.16

District No. 1.

P. W. Sparrow,	\$98.00	
Nellie M. Thomas,	110.00	
Andrew W. Spooner, fuel,	14.70	222.70

District No. 2.

Jane G. Allen, teacher,	\$150.00	
A. G. Bourne, care,	8.25	
P. S. Macy, fuel,	16.00	
Reuben Austin, fuel,	4.56	178.81

District No. 3.

Emma S. Taber, teacher,	\$90.00	
Roland Fish, fuel,	16.00	
Richard Weed, care,	12.00	
Francis P. Sherman, care,	4.00	122.00

District No. 4.

W. C. Ryder, teacher,	\$728.75	
Lois Deane, teacher,	263.62	
M. A. Fairfield, teacher,	165.37	
Amanda Clark, teacher,	130.00	
Millie S. Eldredge, teacher,	126.50	
D. P. Rand, teacher,	142.50	
E. T. Delano, teacher,	105.00	
Henry B. Webb, care,	37.70	
John Sweeny, care,	26.88	
Alden Allen, care,	17.45	
E. B. West, care,	2.40	
George Reeves, care,	2.00	
Roland Fish, fuel,	120.75	
Andrew Benson, fuel,	26.25	
Frank Smith, fuel,	4.25	
George B. Lawton, care,	4.00	1,903.42

District No. 5.

Hellen M. Clark, teacher,	\$106.25	
Mary A. Coe, teacher,	62.50	
H. M. Howland, teacher,	62.50	
Jonathan Cowen, fuel,	4.91	
F. Jenney, fuel,	15.25	
Joseph Peirce, labor,	4.25	255.66

District No. 6.

Mary Hinckley, teacher,	\$125.00	
George W. Francis, teacher,	168.75	
Ephraim Delano, fuel,	16.88	310.63

District No. 7.

Matthew Merry, teacher,	\$78.00	
Sarah F. Hitch, teacher,	120.00	
S. E. Studley, fuel,	13.38	
Henry T. Howard, fuel,	7.57	218.95

	\$5,308.33	
Balance to credit on new account,	1,326.19	
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	\$6,634.52	

Credit.

By amount of appropriation,	\$5,500.00	
By amount received from State,	217.15	
Balance from old account,	917.37	\$6,634.52

SUPPORT OF POOR.

Orders drawn for support of poor :

In the alms-house for year 1867-68,	\$698.35	
Out of almshouse for year 1867-68,	694.41	
State Lunatic Hospital,	714.35	
Joseph B. Taber,	143.00	
Roland Fish,	78.61	
George Atwood,	131.00	
Rufus Allen,	171.71	
A. P. Willcox,	31.10	
S. S. Swift & Co.,	101.50	
Isaac Fairchild,	60.50	
F. M. Fuller,	185.65	
Forbes & Sears, carriage for alms-house,	62.50	
Fairhaven Union Store,	74.12	
William Willcox, cow for alms-house,	85.00	
Joseph W. Braley,	105.00	
State Nautical School,	21.42	
Coggeshall & Co.,	12.25	
A. Nye,	195.68	
Stillman Leavitt,	166.01	\$3,732.16

Credit.

By amount of appropriation,	\$2,000.00	
By cash from town of Dartmouth,	94.41	
By cash from town of Acushnet,	76.75	
By cash from town of Rochester,	50.35	
By cash from town of Mattapoisett,	401.37	
By cash from town of Middleborough,	64.25	
By cash from city of New Bedford,	91.95	
By cash from Sarah Shaw,	169.79	
By cash from Joseph Pope,	155.09	
By cash from Joseph Millett,	176.29	
By cash from Stillman Leavitt, highway labor,	284.60	
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	\$3,564.85	
Amount overdrawn to debit incidental acc.,	167.31	\$3,732.16

INCIDENTAL ACCOUNT.

Fire Department.

Engine company No. 3,	\$602.50
Engine company No. 5,	365.84
John Quirk, No. 3,	36.90
Rufus Allen, No. 3,	3.25
Reuben Fitch, watching,	2.00
F. M. Fuller, No. 3,	4.30
D. K. Hathaway, No. 5,	3.00
William H. Willis, repairing hose,	5.17

William H. Willis, new hose,	\$959.25	
Dexter Jenney, No. 3,	.80	
William C. Ford, No. 3,	3.33	
George Miller and N. Hathaway, watching,	1.50	
Jacob Akin, No. 3,	2.00	
Allen & Brownell, No. 3,	32.00	
Boston and Fairhaven Iron Works, No. 3,	25.65	
William Mann,	10.35	
William H. Hoeg,	9.15	
Roland Fish, No. 3,	8.00	
Simpson Hart, No. 3,	1.06	
Nathaniel S. Taber, Nos. 3 and 5,	9.29	
James I. Church, Nos. 3 and 5,	12.99	
Albert I. Barney, No. 5,	11.40	
Joseph Millett, Nos. 3 and 5,	9.08	\$2,118.81

State Aid.

State aid furnished families,	\$846.00
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Town Debt.

Paid notes favor Fairhaven Institution for		
Savings,	\$1,600.00	
Notes favor B. Taber, guardian,	1,350.00	
Note favor Ellery T. Taber,	500.00	
Note favor Henry Akin,	500.00	
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	\$3,950.00	
Paid interest on town debt,	1,969.30	\$5,919.30

School Books.

Amount paid for school books,	\$270.01
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Salaries.

Selectmen :		
Bartholomew Taber,	\$200.00	
Isaiah West,	65.00	
Reuben Nye,	35.00	\$300.00
Overseers of Poor :		
Bartholomew Taber,	50.00	
Isaiah West,	25.00	
Reuben Nye,	15.00	90.00
Assessors :		
Lewis S. Judd,	125.00	
George H. Taber,	96.00	
Charles Bryant,	62.00	283.00
Fire Wards :		
William H. Hoeg,	10.00	
William Mann,	10.00	
Aaron Savery,	10.00	30.00

Constables :		
William Mann,	\$12.00	
James Davis,	7.50	\$19.50
Committee on Accounts :		
L. S. Judd,	2.00	
George F. Tripp,	2.00	4.00
Town Clerk, Treasurer and Collector :		
Tucker Damon,		562.32
Registrar :		
Tucker Damon,		17.90
School Committee :		
Isaac Fairchilds,	54.75	
Charles Drew,	51.88	
Daniel C. Burt,	50.00	156.63

Incidentals.

Charles Jenney,	\$5.00	
Roland Fish,	6.12	
Bristol County Insurance Company,	36.00	
Fessenden & Baker, advertising,	45.75	
Alonzo Hill,	1.60	
H. A. Davis, State sealer,	9.50	
Seth Jenney,	2.00	
Job C. Tripp,	5.00	
A. G. Liscomb, land damage,	125.00	
E. Anthony & Sons, advertising and printing,	142.25	
George B. Wheeler, surveyor,	17.50	
C. E. Clark, surveyor,	2.00	
Stationery for assessors,	3.77	
Phoenix Hall, rent of hall,	40.00	
Phoenix Hall, rent for office,	27.50	
Estate of John Allen, land rent,	5.00	
Joseph Peirce,	3.00	
Tripp & Bourne,	4.25	
Obadiah Davis, care town clock,	14.58	
Parsons & Co., records,	16.75	
O. Prescott, legal services,	3.00	
Bartholomew Taber, incidentals,	7.38	
Isaiah West, incidentals,	7.05	
Albert G. Liscomb,	5.00	
George A. Briggs, surveyor,	16.60	
Jonathan Cowen,	2.50	
Tucker Damon, office expenses,	3.46	557.56
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Balance overdrawn for Highways,	\$210.73	
Abatement on taxes for prompt payment,	1,217.50	
Taxes remitted,	67.23	
Taxes refunded,	59.41	
Balance overdrawn for support poor	167.31	\$1,722.18

New Road.

Seth A. Mitchell,	\$1,600.00	
Joseph W. Peirce,	50.00	
Charles F. Jenney,	183.00	
Charles P. Payne,	6.00	
Joseph Millett,	94.00	
Edward Jenney,	50.00	
Elihu Hammond,	30.50	
Charles F. Blossom,	36.00	
Seth Jenney,	21.00	
William C. Ford,	114.00	
R. A. West and Abner Howard,	25.33	
Walter F. Howland,	131.00	\$2,340.83
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		\$15,238.04
Balance unexpended to credit on new account,		4,738.01
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		\$19,976.05

Credit.

By amount of appropriation,	\$6,000.00	
By amount of appropriation for new road,	1,000.00	
By amount of appropriation for soldier's monument,	1,700.00	
By loan from Fairhaven Institution for Savings,	7,100.00	
By cash from State for State aid,	1,300.00	
By cash from State, corporation tax,	1,352.19	
By cash from National Bank, Fairhaven, dividends,	184.00	
By cash from A. P. Willcox, book agent,	236.25	
By overlay on taxes,	1,103.61	\$19,976.05

TOWN DEBT.

Loans from Fairhaven Institution for Saving,	\$23,500.00	
Loans from individuals,	15,832.00	
Interest on loans.	1,182.00	
Outstanding bills,	2,396.84	\$42,910.84

Deductions.

Due from Commonwealth, State aid,	\$1,351.15
Due from Commonwealth, State pauper,	10.00
Due from town of Dartmouth,	74.40
Due from city of Fall River,	20.00
Due from Sarah Shaw's estate,	33.50
Due from Samuel White,	83.33

Due from Joseph Pope,	28.85	
Twenty-three shares Na. Bank, Fairhaven,	1,978.00	
Due from W. H. Willis,	85.00	
Uncollected taxes,	8,099.15	
Cash in hands of treasurer,	1,287.11	\$13,050.49
Total debt of the town,		<u>\$29,860.35</u>

TOWN LIQUOR AGENCY.

Stock and cash on hand March 15th, 1867,	\$368.21	
Profit on sales,	94.48	\$462.69

Credit.

By stock on hand March 17th, 1868,	\$229.60	
By agent's salary,	70.00	
By government license,	20.00	
By balance cash on hand,	143.09	\$462.69

SCHOOL BOOK AGENCY.

To balance on hand March 15th, 1867,	\$20.51	
To books on hand March 15th, 1867,	211.24	
To books purchased during the year,	256.83	
To advance on books sold,	28.09	\$516.67

Credit.

By books on hand March 17th, 1868,	\$177.54	
By cash paid town treasurer,	236.25	
By books furnished schools and sundry persons,	48.95	
By bills paid by agent,	22.64	
By agent's commissions,	23.20	
By cash on hand,	8.09	\$516.67

Respectfully submitted,

BARTHOLOMEW TABER,	} Selectmen.
ISAIAH WEST,	
REUBEN NYE,	

We the undersigned have examined the foregoing accounts and believe them to be correct.

GEORGE F. TRIPP,	} Committee on Accounts.
L. S. JUDD,	

Fairhaven, March 25, 1868.

REPORT

OF THE

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF THE

TOWN OF FAIRHAVEN,

For the Year 1867-8.



NEW BEDFORD :

E. ANTHONY & SONS, PRINTERS, 67 UNION STREET.
1868.

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE,

The time has again arrived when it becomes the duty of the committee, superintending the public schools of the town of Fairhaven, to present a report of their condition. We have the conviction that our schools as a whole, the past year, have been carrying forward a good work; that the teachers connected with them have labored earnestly and faithfully; and that the scholars who have enjoyed their advantages and have made fair progress in the various departments of study. We do not however feel, and would not presume to say that *every* school in town has been a complete success, or that *every* teacher has wrought with the same earnestness and fidelity, or that *every* scholar has been equally and sufficiently diligent in the improvement of time and opportunity. While we doubt not that in most if not all of the schools *more* might have been and should have been accomplished, yet a review of the entire work of the year is in a good degree satisfactory and furnishes a ground of hope for the future.

At the last annual town meeting it was found that one article to take action upon was to see if the town would authorize the several school districts to choose their Prudential Committees, it being the same article that had been inserted for several years previously and under which the districts had not only chosen their Prudential Committees but those committees had understood it also to invest them with power to "select and contract" with teachers.

At this meeting the question was presented, Does the article thus framed give such power to the Prudential Committee? The negative of the question was generally assented to.

The committee of the town, however, understanding the true *intent* of those causing the article to be thus inserted, and also believing that it was the expectation of the people that thereby they were to enjoy the privilege so long accorded to them, proposed to the several Prudential Committees, that as they better understood the wishes of the people in their districts in the matter of their teachers, to nominate such as they might desire to have, and if legally and otherwise qualified, the committee of the town would appoint them, thereby making the transaction not only legal, but so far as possible, allaying disappointment, and satisfying all reasonable expectations on the matter. In some cases such was the effect, but in others it is feared jealousy of the power of appointment, now falling unexpectedly into the hands of the committee of the town, led many to fear it might be used to thwart the cherished preferences of the districts, thus working an injurious effect on the progress of the schools.

The committee earnestly hope that the town may rectify any mistake hitherto made in not properly presenting the question of the relative duties of the committee of the town and those of the Prudential Committees, as it may go far to prevent any collision of feeling in the selection and appointment of teachers. It is a responsibility and labor by no means sought for by the committee of the town, especially when it is so apparent that a majority of the districts desire that the authority so to "select and contract" be confided to them.

Before the commencement of the schools the committee gave extended notice to all persons desiring the position of teachers, to meet them at a certain time and place for the purpose of examination. To their surprise only three were present from abroad, two of which were found well qualified, and they were secured for our schools. There were then four or five vacancies to be filled, and it was found almost impossible at the time to secure teachers of well known competency and experience, and their last and only resort

was to young persons who, although otherwise well qualified in books, were without experience, but their appointment of three of our High School graduates temporarily to fill a number of vacancies were so well justified by their success as to lead them to confirm their appointment for the remainder of the year.

One cause of difficulty in obtaining teachers of experience, is the fact, that many towns in this part of our State hold their annual meetings in the month of March, thereby giving their school committees the advantage of one month in time to complete their school arrangements and secure the best unengaged teachers.

SCHOOL HOUSES.—The committee have great pleasure in stating that during the past year great changes have been made in several of the school houses of the town, indicating the development of larger and better ideas in respect to true educational influences.

The stone school house in District No. 2 (Oxford Village) has been somewhat altered and repaired, and entirely refitted in its interior arrangements, making it not only more convenient and better adapted to educational purposes, but truly attractive.

The school house in District No. 5 (Nasketucket) has had its interior repaired in general, better seated, and the whole house put in good order.

The school house in District No. 7 (Sconticut) has been enlarged, modernized in its fixtures, and is altogether a little *gem* whose very look and atmosphere are helpers to the teacher.

The Grammar school house on Centre street has been extensively altered, rendering it vastly more convenient for the several schools occupying it. The committee have only one wish remaining in regard to this house, it is, that in their future appropriations the district do not overlook its present defective architectural construction.

The North Primary school house on Bridge street has

been removed to a lot on the corner of Spring and Rotch streets, ample and convenient, secured by purchase, and which will in the future, with a small annual appropriation, become attractive and well fitted for a play ground for the children, and thus prevent any desire for the street or the premises of their neighbors.

In the opinion of the committee, increased and strengthened by a long course of observation, the school edifice has much to do in the educational process for good or evil, and that a less appropriation for school purposes, to be used in a building whose whole arrangements external and internal, whose appliances and fixtures, are attractive and truly designed as *helps*, would go further in the culture of the young, than a vastly greater sum expended in a building unattractive in outward comeliness and inconvenient in arrangement, and some such are too often absolutely repulsive, and the fruitful source of much of the TRUANCY of the present day. Such buildings are prominent objects of notice and remark of the passer by. They see in its outward conditions thoughtlessness or neglect on the part of the district, allowing dilapidation to hold undisputed sway, while the huge *original* boulders in the door yard up to the very entrance are taking their quiet and *undisturbed* repose. Should one enter this sanctuary of the "good enough" past, he sees doors and desks marked by the expressions of a depraved mind, and which by habit have come to be looked upon by those who are obliged to gather there as a standing invitation to add *their* quota of disfiguration to the sum total of what was accumulated by the hands of the generation that preceded them. Friends, think of it! It is hard, it is expensive for a teacher to teach in such a place. It is hard for a child to learn much of good with such counteracting and demoralizing influences about him.

SCHOOL APPARATUS. — If we except the High school and District No. 3, there is but little of the kind in any of the school-rooms. In No. 3 there is to be seen hanging upon

the walls of the school-room a set of outline maps of large dimensions, and a globe standing upon the teacher's table. And they greatly aid the scholars who attend that school in the study of geography. What idea has a beginner in this branch of the *form* of the earth, who has nothing but a map before him. He may be told it is round like a globe, but unless he has one exhibited to him with explanations, what distinct correct conceptions has he? Outline maps, which are constantly before the eye of the scholar, help very much to fix permanently in the mind the various portions of land and water on the earth's surface. By means of them, too, he will be assisted in sketching maps, which is a very useful exercise. Now, how shall these much needed fixtures, globes and outline maps, be supplied? Will the several districts take the matter in hand and provide the means of supply, either by taxation or voluntary subscription, or shall the town committee appropriate to this purpose, as they are authorized to do, a portion of the income of the State school fund?

DISMISSION. — It is a very common thing in some of the schools for parents to request that their children be dismissed before the close of the session. This practice is productive of many evils. It interrupts the teacher, retards the progress of the regular recitations, renders those who remain uneasy, and diverts their attention from their lessons, besides depriving those who are thus dismissed of the benefit of the closing exercises of the school. Doubtless such early dismissals are necessary on some occasions, but parents should be careful not to call for them too frequently.

HIGH SCHOOL. — This school, in charge of Mr. C. C. Woodman, a graduate of Dartmouth College, has passed through a year of general prosperity. The time of graduation has been changed from December to the close of the school year. And there will be a corresponding change in the time of admission. It is very much to be regretted that the present graduating class is numerically so small, most of

its original members having from time to time dropped out. We feel constrained to urge upon the attention of parents the high importance of the full course of instruction which is prescribed for this school. The scholar whose circumstances absolutely forbid a longer continuance, will undoubtedly receive a measure of benefit by a connection with it of one or two years, or even for a single term; but the advantages it affords will increase in proportion to the length of time they are enjoyed, and can be fully realized only by a diligent and persevering use of them through the entire course of four years.

APPORTIONMENT. — At the commencement of the school year the committee apportioned the town's appropriation of money to the several districts according to their best judgment, endeavoring to make all the schools as nearly of an equal length as possible, and hoping to be able to give them all, if not ten months, yet an approximation to that length of time. Various causes have operated to prevent this desired result. But the aggregate length of all the schools is more than it has been in former years.

In closing, we would express our pleasure at the practical evidence the town has recently given of its unabated interest in the welfare of its schools, by the enlargement of the annual appropriation. In the amount appropriated for each scholar between the age of five and fifteen years, as reported by the board of education for the year 1866, we ranked second in the county. In all probability, in the report for 1867, which has not yet been received, we shall advance to the highest rank, in consequence of the increased appropriation of last year. An honorable position to take, and one which it is to be hoped we shall continue to hold.

The subjoined tables will give all needed statistical information.

The amount raised by the town for school purposes the past year was \$5,500.00

Of which there has been appropriated the following sums, modified to meet the time and cost of each school:

To District No. 1,	\$220.00	
“ “ 2,	280.00	
“ “ 3,	110.00	
“ “ 4,	2,295.00	
“ “ 5,	248.00	
“ “ 6,	323.00	
“ “ 7,	245.00	
High school,	1,625.00	\$5,346.00
		<hr/>
		\$154.00
Amount received from State fund,		217.15
		<hr/>
Balance unappropriated,		\$371.15

All of which is respectfully submitted.

ISAAC FAIRCHILD, *Chairman.*
CHARLES DREW, *Secretary.*

TABLE I.

SCHOOLS.	Whole number between 5 and 15, May 1, 1897.	SUMMER.					WINTER.				
		Attendance between 5 and 15.	Attendance under 5.	Attendance over 15.	Whole attendance.	Average attendance.	Attendance between 5 and 15.	Attendance under 5.	Attendance over 15.	Whole attendance.	Average attendance.
District No. 1,	32	35	1		36	23.50	33	2	4	39	30.80
“ No. 2,	38	40		1	41	36.	38	2	3	43	33.
“ No. 3,	33	31			31	24.62	29			29	25.07
“ No. 4,	316										
Grammar,		91		3	94	78.	89		7	96	69.
Centre Intermediate,		47		1	48	39.07	53		1	54	41.16
Centre Primary,		56			56	41.49	41			41	32.13
North Primary,		39			39	30.23	32			32	27.16
South Intermediate,		22			22	18.68	26			26	21.26
South Primary,		34			34	24.60	31			31	22.80
District No. 5,	39	28	1	2	31	21.	25	11	3	36	27.17
“ No. 6,	38	25	2		27	20.	28		8	36	26.
“ No. 7,	17	10	3		13	8.11	9	1	4	14	10.
High School,		30	31	61	122	53.	21	40	61	122	51.

TABLE II.

SCHOOLS.

District No. 1.	Summer, Nellie Thomas,	\$22.00	5	mos.
	Winter, Nellie Thomas,	22.00	4	"
District No. 2.	Summer, Jane Allen,	25.00	5	"
	Winter, Jane Allen,	25.00	5	"
District No. 3.	Summer, Mary A. Bowman, } Emma Taber, }	27.50	6½	"
	Winter, Emma Taber,	35.00	3½	"
District No. 4.				
Grammar,	Summer, C. Ryder,	75.00	5	"
"	Winter, C. Ryder,	75.00	5	"
Assistant,	Summer, Lois Deane,	27.50	5	"
"	Winter, Lois Deane,	27.50	5	"
Centre Intermediate,	Summer, M. A. Fairfield,	24.50	6	"
	Winter, M. A. Fairfield,	24.50	3¾	"
Centre Primary,	Summer, Amanda Clark,	20.00	5½	"
	Winter, Amanda Clark,	20.00	4½	"
South Intermediate,	Summer, Elizabeth Delano,	20.00	6	"
	Winter, Elizabeth Delano,	30.00	4	"
South Primary,	Summer, Deborah Rand,	19.00	5¼	"
	Winter, Deborah Rand,	19.00	4¼	"
North Primary,	Summer, Millie Eldredge,	22.00	6	"
	Winter, Millie Eldredge,	22.00	3¼	"
District No. 5,	Summer, Mary Coe,	25.00	5	"
	Winter, Hattie M. Howland,	25.00	3¾	"
District No. 6,	Summer, Mary Hinckley,	25.00	5	"
	Winter, Geo. W. Francis,	45.00	3¾	"
District No. 7,	Summer, Sarah Hitch,	22.00	6	"
	Winter, Sarah Hitch,	22.00	4	"
High School,	Summer, C. C. Woodman,	120.00	2¼	"
	Winter, C. C. Woodman,	120.00	7	"
Assistant,	Summer, E. P. Hamlin,	35.00	7	"
	Winter, E. P. Hamlin,	35.00	7	"

